

**R7-2-613. Endorsements**

- A. An endorsement shall be automatically renewed with the certificate on which it is posted.
- B. Except as noted, all endorsements are subject to the general certification provisions in R7-2-607.
- C. Endorsements which are optional as specified herein may be required by local governing boards.
- D. Special subject endorsements -- grades K-12.
  - 1. Special subject endorsements shall be issued in the area of art, computer science, dance, dramatic arts, music, or physical education.
  - 2. Special subject endorsements are optional.
  - 3. The requirements are:
    - a. An Arizona elementary, secondary, or special education certificate;
    - b. One course in the methods of teaching the subject at the elementary level;
    - c. One course in the methods of teaching the subject at the secondary level; and
    - d. One of the following:
      - i. Thirty semester hours of courses in the subject area; or
      - ii. A passing score on the subject area portion of the Arizona Teacher Proficiency Assessment, if an assessment has been adopted by the Board.
- E. Mathematics Specialist Endorsement -- grades K-8
  - 1. The mathematics specialist endorsement is optional.
  - 2. The requirements are:
    - a. An Arizona elementary or special education certificate;
    - b. Three semester hours of courses in the methods of teaching elementary school mathematics; and

- c. Fifteen semester hours of courses in mathematics education for teachers of elementary or middle school mathematics.

F. Reading Specialist Endorsement -- grades K-12

1. The reading specialist endorsement shall be required of an individual in the position of reading specialist, reading consultant, remedial reading teacher, special reading teacher, or in a similar position.
2. The requirements are:
  - a. An Arizona elementary, secondary, or special education certificate; and
  - b. Fifteen semester hours of courses to include decoding, diagnosis and remediation of reading difficulties, and practicum in reading.

G. Elementary Foreign Language Endorsement -- grades K-8

1. The elementary foreign language endorsement is optional.
2. The requirements are:
  - a. An Arizona elementary, secondary or special education certificate.
  - b. Proficiency in speaking, reading, and writing a language other than English, verified by the appropriate language department of an accredited institution. American Indian language proficiency shall be verified by an official designated by the appropriate tribe.
  - c. Three semester hours of courses in the methods of teaching a foreign language at the elementary level.

H. Bilingual Endorsements -- grades K-12

1. A provisional bilingual endorsement or a bilingual endorsement is required of an individual who is a bilingual classroom teacher, bilingual resource teacher, bilingual specialist, or otherwise responsible for providing bilingual instruction.
2. The provisional bilingual endorsement is valid for three years and is not renewable. The requirements are:

- a. An Arizona elementary, secondary, or special education, or vocational certificate; and
  - b. Proficiency in a language other than English or sign language.
- 3. The holder of the bilingual endorsement is also authorized to teach English as a Second Language.
- 4. The requirements are:
  - a. An Arizona elementary, secondary, special education, or vocational certificate;
  - b. Completion of a bilingual education program from an accredited institution or the following courses:
    - i. Three semester hours of foundations of instruction for non-English-language-background students;
    - ii. Three semester hours of bilingual methods;
    - iii. Three semester hours of English as a Second Language for bilingual settings;
    - iv. Three semester hours of courses in bilingual materials and curriculum; assessment of limited-English-proficient students; teaching reading and writing in the native language; or English as a Second Language for bilingual settings;
    - v. Three semester hours of linguistics to include psycholinguistics, sociolinguistics, first language acquisition, and second language acquisition for language minority students; or American Indian language linguistics;
    - vi. Three semester hours of courses dealing with school, community, and family culture and parental involvement in programs of instruction for non-English-language-background students; and

vii. Three semester hours of courses in methods of teaching and evaluating handicapped children from non-English-language backgrounds. These hours are only required for bilingual endorsements on special education certificates.

c. A valid bilingual certificate or endorsement from another state may be substituted for the courses described in subsection (H)(4)(b);

d. Practicum in a bilingual program or two years of verified bilingual teaching experience; and

e. Proficiency in a spoken language other than English, verified by the language department of an accredited institution except in the case of Spanish and American Indian languages. Spanish language proficiency shall be demonstrated by passing the Arizona Classroom Spanish Proficiency Examination approved by the Board. American Indian language proficiency shall be verified by an official designated by the appropriate tribe.

#### I. English as a Second Language (ESL) Endorsements -- grades K-12

1. An ESL or bilingual endorsement is required of an individual who is an ESL classroom teacher, ESL specialist, ESL resource teacher, or otherwise responsible for providing ESL instruction.

2. The provisional ESL endorsement is valid for three years and is not renewable.

The requirements are:

a. An Arizona elementary, secondary, or special education, or vocational certificate; and

b. Six semester hours of courses specified in subsection (I)(3)(b), including at least one course in methods of teaching ESL students.

3. The requirements for the ESL endorsement are:

a. An Arizona elementary, secondary, special education, or vocational certificate;

- b. Completion of an ESL education program from an accredited institution or the following courses:
  - i. Three semester hours of courses in foundations of instruction for non-English-language-background students. Three semester hours of courses in the nature and grammar of the English language, taken before January 1, 1999, may be substituted for this requirement;
  - ii. Three semester hours of ESL methods;
  - iii. Three semester hours of teaching of reading and writing to limited-English-proficient students;
  - iv. Three semester hours of assessment of limited-English-proficient students;
  - v. Three semester hours of linguistics; and
  - vi. Three semester hours of courses dealing with school, community, and family culture and parental involvement in programs of instruction for non-English-language-background students.
- c. Three semester hours of a practicum or two years of verified ESL or bilingual teaching experience, verified by the district superintendent;
- d. Second language learning experience, which may include sign language. Second language learning experience may be documented by any of the following:
  - i. Six semester hours of courses in a single second language, or the equivalent, verified by the department of language, education, or English at an accredited institution;
  - ii. Completion of intensive language training by the Peace Corps, the Foreign Service Institute, or the Defense Language Institute;

- iii. Placement by the language department of an accredited institution in a third-semester level;
  - iv. Placement at level 1-intermediate/low or more advanced score on the Oral Proficiency Interview, verified by the American Council for the Teaching of Foreign Languages;
  - v. Passing score on the Arizona Classroom Spanish Proficiency Examination approved by the Board; or
  - vi. Proficiency in an American Indian language, verified by an official designated by the appropriate tribe.
- e. A valid ESL certificate or endorsement from another state may be substituted for the requirements described in subsection (l)(3)(b), (c), and (d).

J. Structured English Immersion (SEI) Endorsements -- grades K-12

1. From and after August 31, 2006, an SEI, ESL or bilingual endorsement is required of all classroom teachers, supervisors, principals and superintendents. For purposes of this rule, "supervisor," "principal" and "superintendent" means an individual who holds a supervisor, principal or superintendent certificate.
2. The provisional SEI endorsement is valid for three years and is not renewable. The requirements are:
  - a. An Arizona elementary, secondary, special education, career and technical education, supervisor, principal or superintendent certificate; and
  - b. For teachers, supervisors, principals and superintendents certified on or after August 31, 2006, three semester hours of courses in Structured English Immersion methods of teaching English Language Learner (ELL) students, including but not limited to instruction in SEI strategies, teaching with the ELL Proficiency Standards adopted by the Board and monitoring ELL student academic progress using a variety of assessment tools; or

- c. For teachers, supervisors, principals and superintendents certified before August 31, 2006, one semester hour or 15 clock hours of professional development in Structured English Immersion methods of teaching ELL students, including but not limited to instruction in SEI strategies, teaching with the ELL Proficiency Standards adopted by the Board and monitoring ELL student academic progress using a variety of assessment tools through a training program that meets the requirements of A.R.S. § ~~15-756(A)(5)~~ 15-756.09(B).

3. The requirements for the SEI endorsement are:

- a. An Arizona elementary, secondary, special education, career and technical education, supervisor, principal, or superintendent certificate, and;
- b. Qualification for the provisional SEI endorsement, and either:
  - i. Three semester hours of courses related to the teaching of the English Language Learner Proficiency Standards adopted by the State Board of Education, including but not limited to instruction in SEI strategies, teaching with the ELL Proficiency Standards adopted by the Board and monitoring ELL student academic progress using a variety of assessment tools; or
  - ii. Completion of 45 clock hours of professional development in the teaching of the English Language Learner Proficiency Standards adopted by the State Board of Education, including but not limited to instruction in SEI strategies, teaching with the ELL Proficiency Standards adopted by the Board and monitoring ELL student academic progress using a variety of assessment tools through a training program that meets the requirements of A.R.S. § ~~15-756(A)(5)~~ 15-756.09(B).

4. Nothing in this rule prevents school districts from requiring certified staff to obtain an ESL or bilingual endorsement as a condition of employment.

5. The requirements for a Provisional SEI endorsement may be waived for a period not to exceed one year in accordance with certification reciprocity as prescribed in A.A.C. R7-2-619.

K. Gifted Endorsements -- grades K-12

1. A gifted endorsement is required of individuals whose primary responsibility is teaching gifted students.
2. The provisional gifted endorsement is valid for three years and is not renewable. The requirements are an Arizona elementary, secondary, or special education certificate and one of the following:
  - a. Two years of verified teaching experience in which most students were gifted;
  - b. Ninety clock hours of verified in-service training in gifted education; or
  - c. Six semester hours of courses in gifted education.
3. Requirements for the gifted endorsement are:
  - a. An Arizona elementary, secondary, or special education certificate;
  - b. Completion of 9 semester hours of upper division or graduate level courses in an academic discipline such as science, mathematics, language arts, foreign language, social studies, psychology, fine arts, or computer science; and
  - c. Two of the following:
    - i. Three years of verified teaching experience in gifted education as a teacher, resource teacher, specialist, or similar position, verified by the district; or
    - ii. A minimum of 135-clock hours of verified in-service training in gifted education; or



- iii. Completion of 12 semester hours of courses in gifted education. District in-service programs in gifted education may be substituted for up to six semester hours of gifted education courses. Fifteen clock hours of in-service is equivalent to one semester hour. In-service hours shall be verified by the district superintendent or personnel director. Practicum courses shall not be accepted toward this requirement; or
- iv. Completion of six semester hours of practicum or two years of verified teaching experience in which most students were gifted.

L. Early Childhood Education Endorsement - birth through age eight

- 1. An early childhood endorsement is optional, but recommended for individuals teaching in public school early childhood education programs who are not otherwise certified in early childhood education. When combined with an Arizona elementary education teaching certificate or an Arizona special education teaching certificate, it may be used in lieu of a standard early childhood education certificate as described in R7-2-612(I).
- 2. An endorsement shall be automatically renewed with the certificate on which it is posted.
- 3. The requirements are:
  - a. A valid Arizona elementary education teaching certificate as provided in R7-2-608 or a valid Arizona special education teaching certificate as provided in R7-2-610;
  - b. Early childhood education coursework and practicum experience which includes both of the following:
    - i. 21 semester hours of early childhood education courses to include all of the following areas of study:
      - (1) foundations of early childhood education;

- (2) child guidance and classroom management;
- (3) characteristics and quality practices for typical and atypical behaviors of young children;
- (4) child growth and development, including health, safety and nutrition;
- (5) child, family, cultural and community relationships;
- (6) developmentally appropriate instructional methodologies for teaching language, math, science, social studies and the arts;
- (7) early language and literacy development;
- (8) assessing, monitoring and reporting progress of young children; and

ii. A minimum of 8 semester hours of practicum including:

- (1) A minimum of 4 semester hours in a supervised field experience, practicum, internship or student teaching setting serving children birth - preschool. One year of full-time verified teaching experience with children in birth - preschool may substitute for this student teaching experience. This verification may come from a school-based education program or center-based program licensed by the Department of Health Services or regulated by tribal or military authorities; and
  - (2) A minimum of 4 semester hours in a supervised student teaching setting serving children in kindergarten - grade 3. One year of full-time verified teaching experience with children in kindergarten - grade 3 in an accredited school may substitute for this student teaching experience;
- c. A valid Fingerprint Clearance Card issued by Arizona DPS; and
  - d. A passing score on the early childhood subject knowledge portion of the Arizona Educator Proficiency Assessment once that portion of the AEPA is adopted by the Board.

4. Teachers with a valid Arizona elementary education certificate or Arizona special education certificate as of July 1, 2006 meet the requirements of this Section with evidence of the following:

- a. A minimum of three years infant/toddler, preschool or kindergarten - grade 3 classroom teaching experience within 10 years prior to July 1, 2009, and
- b. A passing score on the early childhood subject knowledge portion of the Arizona Educator Proficiency Assessment once that portion of the AEPA is adopted by the Board.

M. Library-Media Specialist Endorsement -- grades K-12

1. The library-media specialist endorsement is optional.

2. Requirements are:

- a. An Arizona elementary, secondary, or special education certificate;
- b. A passing score on the Library Media Specialist portion of the Arizona Teacher Proficiency Assessment. A Master's degree in Library Science may be substituted for a passing score on the assessment; and
- c. One year of teaching experience.

N. Middle Grade Endorsement -- grades 5 - 9

1. The middle grade endorsement is optional. The middle grade endorsement may expand the grades a teacher is authorized to teach on an elementary or secondary certificate.

2. The requirements are:

- a. An Arizona elementary or secondary certificate; and
- b. Six semester hours of courses in middle grade education to include:
  - i. One course in early adolescent psychology;
  - ii. One course in middle grade curriculum; and
  - iii. A practicum or one year of verified teaching experience, in grades 5-9.

#### O. Drivers Education Endorsement

1. The drivers education endorsement is optional.
2. The requirements are:
  - a. An Arizona teaching certificate;
  - b. A valid Arizona driver's license;
  - c. One course in each of the following: safety education, driver and highway safety education, and driver education laboratory experience; and
  - d. A driving record with less than seven violation points and no revocation or suspension of driver's license within the two years preceding application.

#### P. Cooperative Education Endorsement -- grades K-12

1. The cooperative education endorsement is required for individuals who coordinate or teach vocational cooperative education.
2. The requirements are:
  - a. A provisional or standard vocational certificate in the areas of agriculture, business, family and consumer sciences, health occupations, marketing, or industrial technology; and
  - b. One course in vocational cooperative education.

#### **R7-2-619. Reciprocity**

The Board shall issue a comparable Arizona provisional certificate, if one is established pursuant to this Chapter, to an applicant who holds a valid certificate from another state and possesses a Bachelor's or higher degree from an accredited institution.

1. Certificates shall be valid for one year and are nonrenewable.
2. The applicant shall possess a valid Class 1 or Class 2 fingerprint clearance card issued by the Arizona Department of Public Safety. Applicants who were fingerprinted in another state with substantially similar criminal history or teacher

fingerprinting requirements shall be required to provide documentation that an application for a fingerprint clearance card has been submitted to the Arizona Department of Public Safety. "Substantially similar" criminal history or teacher fingerprinting requirements shall be determined by the Investigations Unit and shall, at a minimum, include local law enforcement and FBI checks.

3. The deficiencies allowed pursuant to Arizona Revised Statutes in Arizona Constitution, United States Constitution, and a passing score on all required portions of the Arizona Teacher Proficiency Assessment shall be satisfied prior to the issuance of any other certificate prescribed in this Chapter, except as noted below:

- a. The professional knowledge portion of the Arizona Teacher Proficiency Assessment shall be waived for applicants with three years of verified teaching experience. The three years of verified teaching experience shall have been during the last valid period of the certificate produced from the other state.
- b. The subject knowledge portion of the Arizona Teacher Proficiency Assessment shall be waived for applicants who hold a Master's degree or higher in the subject area to be taught.
- c. The professional knowledge and subject knowledge portions of the Arizona Teacher Proficiency Assessment shall be waived for applicants who hold a current certificate from the National Board for Professional Teaching Standards

4. For the purpose of this rule the requirements in R7-2-613(J), related to Provisional Structured English Language Immersion Endorsements, shall be waived for a period not to exceed one year.